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JUN 16 2004  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
SEISHI KATO, ET AL. )  
Application No.: 09/554,933 )  
Filed: August 21, 2000 )  
For: HUMAN PROTEINS HAVING )  
TRANSMEMBRANE DOMAINS :  
AND DNAs ENCODING )  
THESE PROTEINS :  
Examiner: Jegatheesan Seharaseyon  
Group Art Unit: 1647  
Confirmation No. 6767  
June 10, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUN 18 2004

STATUS INQUIRY

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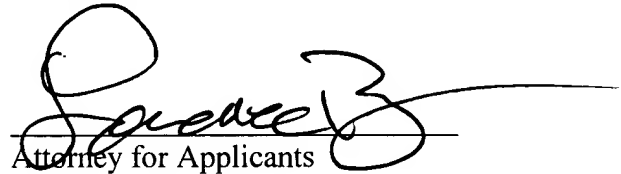
Sir:

The undersigned received an official communication dated November 18, 2003 in the above-identified application informing applicants that, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution was suspended.

Six months having passed, the Patent and Trademark Office is requested promptly to indicate to the undersigned when prosecution will resume.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence S. Perry", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants  
Lawrence S. Perry  
Registration No. 31,865

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